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## NOVEL BRANCHED ALPHA-CYANOSTILBENE FLUOROPHORES

### TECHNICAL FIELD

The present invention relates to novel branched fluorescent materials having a  
5 α-cyanostilbene core structure, which can variously tune the fluorescent colors of red,  
green and blue.

### BACKGROUND ART

Recently, the organic EL element has been attracted considerable attention as a  
10 most suitable material for the flat panel display (FPD) having high brightness. Under this  
trend, a lot of the researches and developments have been carried out vigorously. The  
organic EL element has a structure wherein the luminescent layer is inserted between the  
15 two electrodes. The hole streaming in the anode positively charged recombines with the  
electron flowing in from the cathode negatively charged in the luminescent layer to  
become finally luminescent. The both materials of high molecular and low molecular can  
all be utilized to the production of the organic EL element. The both of them are proved  
15 to provide the organic EL element having high brightness.

The organic EL element is divided broadly into the two types. The one forms  
the luminescent layer by the use of the materials comprising the fluorescence dye to  
20 transporting the charges (See Journal of the Applied Physics, 65, 3610, 1989). The other  
utilizes the luminescence dye per se as the luminescent layer (See Japanese Journal of the  
Applied Physics, 27, L269, 1988).

The organic EL element utilizing the luminescence dye per se as the luminescent  
layer is further divided into the following three types. The first one is the three layers  
25 element wherein the luminescent layer is inserted between the hole transporting layer and  
the electron transporting layer, the second one is the two layers element wherein the hole  
transporting layer and the luminescent layer are laminated to the other one, and the third  
one is the two layers element wherein the electron transporting layer and the luminescent  
layer are laminated to the other one. So, the organic EL element has been known as  
30 exhibiting the improved luminescence efficiency in case that it consists of two or three

layers.

In said organic EL element, the electron transporting layer comprises an electron transporting compound to function as transporting the electron from the cathode to the luminescent layer. Both of the hole injection layer and the hole transporting layer comprise the hole transporting substance to function as transporting the hole from the anode to the luminescent layer. When the hole injection layer is inserted between the anode and the luminescent layer, a number of increased holes can be flowed into the luminescent layer from the low electric field and the electrons streamed in from the cathode or the electron injection layer can be preserved restrictedly in the luminescent layer. Accordingly, the luminescent efficiency can be improved and thus the organic EL element with an excellent efficiency of the luminescence can be realized.

The various kinds of materials concentrated on triphenylamine derivatives used usually have been known widely as the materials used for such organic EL element. However, only very small number of materials are suitable for the practical use. N,N'-diphenyl-N,N'di(3-methylphenyl)-4,4'-diaminophenyl(TPD), for instance, has been informed (Applied Physics Letter, Vol.57, No.6, 531, 1990). However, this compound is thermally unstable and has a problem in respect to the life of element produced. Though lots of triphenylamine derivatives have been known (United States Patent Nos. 5047686, 4047948 and 4536457, Japanese Patent Publication No.6-32307 and Japanese Laid Open Patent Application Nos. 234681, 5-239455, 8-87122 and 8-259940), the most of them are not satisfactory at the aspect of the feature.

Neither the star-burst amine derivatives disclosed either in Japanese Laid Open Patent Application No. 4-308688 or 6-1972, or in the literature of Advanced Material, Vol.6, 577, 1994 satisfy neither the essential requirement for the organic EL element, i.e., the high luminous efficiency and the long life, nor satisfy it the respective compounds disclosed in Japanese Laid Open Patent Application Nos. 7-126226, 7-126615, 7-331238, 7-97355, 8-48656 and 8-100172 and the literature of Journal of the Chemical Society Chemical Communication, p2175, 1996.

The compound having thiophene-ring disclosed in the literature of Advanced Material Vol.9, 720, 1997 has a defect to emit the long wavelength beam.

As set forth hereinabove, the materials used for the usual organic EL element has still been required the improved efficiency. Accordingly, an excellent material capable of improving the luminous efficiency has been desired.

## 5 SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Under those circumstances, the inventors made an attempt to solve the problems in respect to the usual organic EL element and to render a new efficacy, and then synthesized a novel branched stilbene compound, whereby the inventors have discovered that the efficiency required for the organic EL element can be realized at last and possibly completed the present invention.

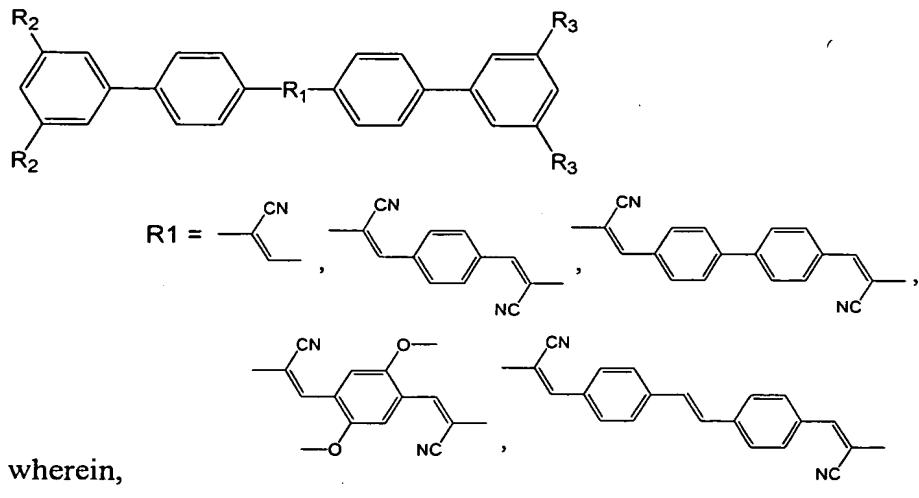
10 Accordingly, the object of the invention is directed to provide a new material with the organic fluorescent materials.

An other object of the invention is to provide a new material with the organic fluorescent materials, which can tune the fluorescent colors of red, green and blue.

## 15 DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The invention is explained in detail herein below.

The branched  $\alpha$ -cyanostilbene derivatives of the invention are polyphenyl derivatives of the formula 1, which can be prepared by the method showing in Examples 1 to 13.



denotes respectively C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy, substituted or unsubstituted amino,

substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or substituted or unsubstituted heterocycle, and the substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or substituted or unsubstituted heterocycle can be condensed at the optional site of the corresponding two benzene rings.

The branched  $\alpha$ -cyanostilbene derivatives of the formula 1 of the invention are used in the composition in the amount of 1 to 99% by weight based on the total weight of the organic electro-luminescent composition.

On the other hand, the branched stilbene fluorescent materials produced show the ultraviolet ray absorption appeared in Fig. 1 and exhibit the fluorescent emission feature shown in Fig. 2 and the electro-luminescent feature shown in Fig. 3. Particularly, all the luminescent colors of the materials in the present invention are emitted throughout the whole color area (red, green, blue) to change the core structure in the branched basic structure. Accordingly, the present invention is considered as an invention capable of color tuning.

Further, most materials of the invention display the early decomposition temperature of 350 to 400°C as shown in Fig. 4 to exert the high thermal stability.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 is a diagram showing the ultraviolet absorption spectrum of the synthesized organic fluorescent materials.

Fig. 2 is a diagram showing the fluorescent emission spectrum of the synthesized organic fluorescent materials in the solid state.

Fig. 3 is a diagram showing the electro-luminescent spectrum of the synthesized organic fluorescent materials in the solid state.

Fig. 4 is a diagram indicating the result of the thermogravimetry analysis (TGA) of the organic fluorescent materials synthesized.

Fig. 5 is a scheme presenting the basic structure of the new branched  $\alpha$ -cyanostilbene organic fluorescent materials exhibiting the luminescent feature.

#### Examples

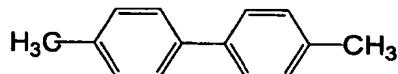
The present invention will be understood more readily with reference to the

following examples, however, those examples are not to be construed to limit the scope of the invention. The modification and application thereof usually acceptable in the pertinent art fall within the scope of the invention.

The process for producing branched  $\alpha$ -cyanostilbene derivatives of formula 1 is explained herein below.

Examples 1 to 8. Preparation of a compound for producing branched  $\alpha$ -cyanostilbene derivatives of formula 1

Example 1. Preparation of 4,4'-dimethylbiphenyl



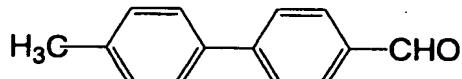
10g(79mmol) of 4-chlorotoluene was added into the solution of purified dimethylformamide together with 0.51g(3.9mmol) of nickel chloride(II), 0.617g(3.9mmol) of 2,2'-bipyridine, 4.14g(15.7mmol) of triphenylphosphine and 122.3mmol of zinc to be agitated at 90°C for 5 hours. When the reaction was completed, the reaction mix was poured in 1N aqueous solution of hydrogen chloride to break the complex structure. The reactant was extracted with methylene chloride and the solvent was distilled off under reduced pressure. The resulted product was washed around twice with methanol and suction-filtrated to dryness. Yield ; 75%.

$^1\text{H-NMR}(\text{CDCl}_3, \text{ppm}) : 7.49(\text{d}, 4\text{H}, \text{Ar-H}), 7.25(\text{d}, 4\text{H}, \text{Ar-H}), 2.38(\text{s}, 6\text{H}, -\text{CH}_3)$ .

$\text{IR}(\text{KBr}, \text{cm}^{-1}) : 3040, 2900, 1500, 1110, 800$ .

20  $\text{MS} (\text{EI})$  (Calculated for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{14}$ , 182.26 ; Found, 182).

Example 2. Preparation of 4'-methylbiphenyl-4-carboaldehyde



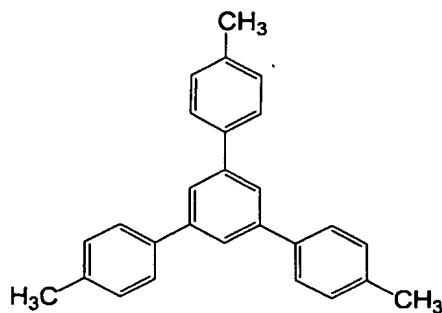
25 Into  $\text{CCl}_4$  solvent, 2.4g(13.3mmol) of the compound produced in Example 1 (Compound 1) and 0.536g(3.0mmol) of N-bromosuccinimide were added and refluxed for 24 hours. After cooled down, the reactant was suction-filtrated and the resultant solution was washed with distilled water and then was dried with anhydrous magnesium sulfate. The dried product was dissolved again in chloroform together with 5.34g(51.2mmol) of

hexamethylenetetraamine and refluxed for 5 hours. After the reactant was cooled down, the solvent was distilled off under reduced pressure and the residue was refluxed severely in acetic acid/H<sub>2</sub>O(17mL/17mL) at 120°C for 2 hours. Finally, 7mL of HCl was added to be refluxed. After cooled down, the reactant was extracted with methylene chloride. The solution was distilled off under reduced pressure and the residue was purified through the column chromatography (silica gel, ethyl acetate/n-hexane=1 : 3) to be dried. Yield ; 24%.

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(CDCl<sub>3</sub>) : 10.0(s, 1H, -CHO), 7.95(d, 2H, Ar-H), 7.75(d, 2H, Ar-H), 7.55(d, 2H, Ar-H), 7.28(d, 2H, Ar-H), 2.42(s, 3H, -CH<sub>3</sub>).

10

Example 3. Preparation of 1,3,5-tris(4-methyl-phenyl)-benzene



20g(149.1mmol) of 4-methylacetophenone was added to ethanol and agitated at low temperature (5-10°C) while introducing gradually 17.08mL(149.1mmol) of SiCl<sub>4</sub> through a syringe. After the agitation for 24 hours, the product was suction-filtrated. The resulted solid product was washed several times with ethanol and then was dried under a vacuum. Yield ; 82%.

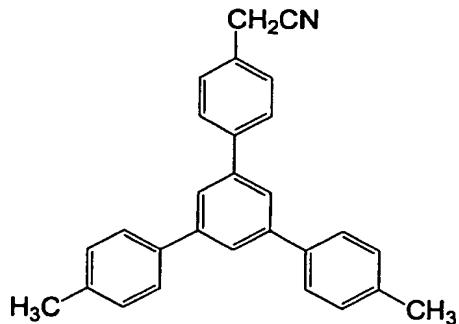
<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) : 7.72(s, 3H, Ar-H), 7.60(d, 6H, Ar-H), 7.29(d, 6H, Ar-H), 2.41(s, 9H, -CH<sub>3</sub>).

20

IR(KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) : 3010, 2950, 1600, 1500, 1410, 1390, 800.

MS (EI) (Calculated for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>24</sub>, 348.38 ; Found, 348).

Example 4. Preparation of [1,3-bis(4-methyl-phenyl)-5-(4-cyanomethyl-phenyl)]-benzene



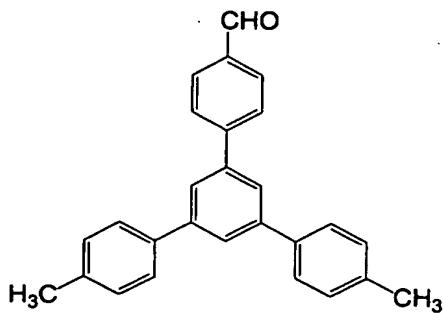
5g(14.4mmol) of the compound produced in Example 3 (Compound 4) and 2.56g(14.4mmol) of N-bromosuccinimide were added in CCl<sub>4</sub> solvent and refluxed for 24 hours. The reactant was cooled down and suction-filtrated. The filtrate was washed with distilled water and dried with anhydrous magnesium sulfate. The solvent was distilled off under reduced pressure. The resulted product was dissolved again in THF and the solution was mixed with ethanol wherein 2.35g(48mmol) of NaCN was dissolved to be agitated for 5 hours. After the completion of the reaction, the solvent was distilled off under reduced pressure and the residue was washed with water to be extracted with methylene chloride. The solution was distilled off under reduced pressure and the residue was purified through the column chromatography (silica gel, ethyl acetate/n-hexane=1 : 3) to be dried. Yield ; 39% (Compound 5 was obtained as the byproduct. Yield ; 17%).

10                   <sup>1</sup>H-NMR(CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) : 7.76(s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.72(d, 4H, Ar-H), 7.60(d, 4H, Ar-H), 7.45(d, 2H, Ar-H), 7.30(d, 4H, Ar-H), 3.81(s, 2H, -CH<sub>2</sub>CN), 2.46(s, 6H, (-CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>).

15                   IR(KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) : 3010, 2950, 2250, 1600, 1500, 1410, 800.

MS (EI) (Calculated for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N, 373.49 ; Found, 373).

Example 5. Preparation of [1,3-bis(4-methyl-phenyl)-5-(4-formyl)-phenyl]-benzene

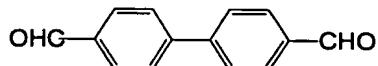


20                   4.67g(13.4mmol) of the compound 4 and 3.58g(20.0mmol) of

N-bromosuccinimide were added in  $\text{CCl}_4$  solvent and refluxed for 24 hours. The reactant was cooled down and suction-filtrated. The filtrate was washed with distilled water and dried with anhydrous magnesium sulfate. The solvent was distilled off under reduced pressure. The residue was purified through the column chromatography (silica gel, ethyl acetate/n-hexane=1 : 5) to be dried. The resulted product was dissolved again in chloroform together with 4.4g(42.7mmol) of hexamethylenetetraamine and the solution was refluxed for 5 hours. After the reactant was cooled down, the solvent was distilled off under reduced pressure and the residue was refluxed intensely in acetic acid/ $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (25mL/25mL) at 120°C for 2 hours. Finally, 10mL of HCl was added to be refluxed. After cooled down, the reactant was extracted with methylene chloride. The solution was distilled off under reduced pressure and the residue was purified through the column chromatography (silica gel, ethyl acetate/ n-hexane=1 : 3) to be dried. Yield ; 17%.

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm) : 10.0(s, 1H, -CHO), 8.0(d, 2H, Ar-H), 7.87-7.77(m, 5H, Ar-H), 7.60(d, 4H, Ar-H), 7.28(d, 4H, Ar-H), 2.42(s, 6H, (-CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>).

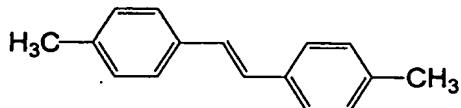
Example 6. Preparation of biphenyl-4,4'-dicarboaldehyde



2.5g(13.7mmol) of the compound 1 and 6.1g(34.3mmol) of N-bromosuccinimide were added in  $\text{CCl}_4$  solvent and refluxed for 24 hours. The reactant was cooled down and suction-filtrated. The filtrate was washed with distilled water and dried with anhydrous magnesium sulfate. The resulted product was dissolved again in chloroform together with 6.6g(47.1mmol) of hexamethylenetetraamine and the solution was refluxed for 5 hours. After the reactant was cooled down, the solvent was distilled off under reduced pressure and the residue was refluxed intensely in acetic acid/ $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (17mL/17mL) at 120°C for 2 hours. Finally, 7mL of HCl was added to be refluxed. After cooled down, the reactant was extracted with methylene chloride. The solution was distilled off under reduced pressure and the residue was purified through the column chromatography (silica gel, ethyl acetate/n-hexane=1 : 3) to be dried. Yield ; 69%.

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(CDCl<sub>3</sub>) : 10.1(s, 2H, -CHO), 7.99(d, 4H, Ar-H), 7.79(d, 4H, Ar-H).

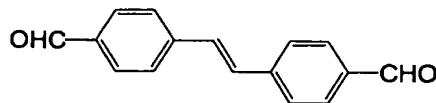
Example 7. Preparation of 4,4'-dimethyl-stilbene



5            2.4g(5.37mmol) of (4-methylbenzyl)triphenylphosphonium bromide and 0.98g(60%, 24.4mmol) of NaH were refluxed in toluene for 6 hours. After cooled down, 0.586g(4.88mmol) of 4-methylbenzaldehyde was introduced gradually to the solution to be refluxed again for 6 hours. The resulted product was treated with water to be extracted with ethyl acetate. The solvent was distilled off and the residue was recrystallized in 10 ethanol. Yield ; 71%.

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(CDCl<sub>3</sub>) : 7.64(d, 4H, Ar-H), 7.16(d, 4H, Ar-H), 6.90(s, 2H, vinyl).

Example 8. Preparation of 4,4'-di-formyl-stilbene



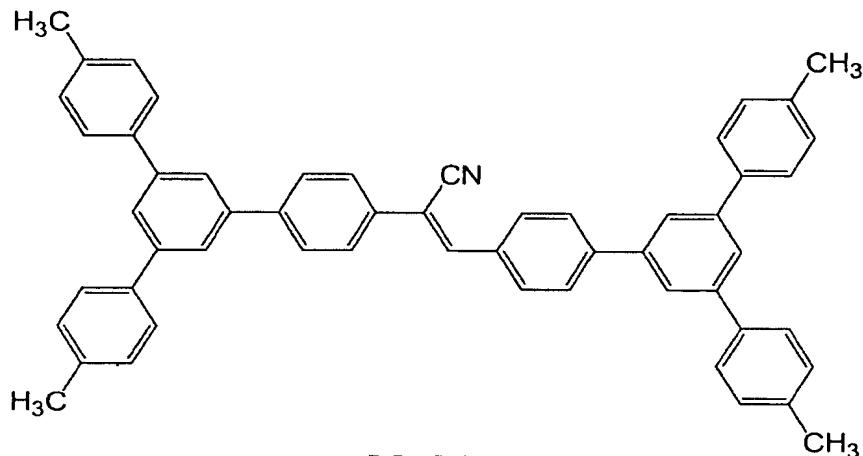
15            Into CCl<sub>4</sub> solvent, 2g(9.6mmol) of the compound produced in Example 7 (Compound 9) and 4.27g(24.0mmol) of N-bromosuccinimide were added and refluxed for 24 hours. After cooled down, the reactant was suction-filtrated and the resultant solution was washed with distilled water and then was dried with anhydrous magnesium sulfate. The dried product was dissolved again in chloroform together with 4.0g(38.4mmol) of hexamethylenetetraamine and refluxed for 5 hours. After the reactant was cooled down, 20 the solvent was distilled off under reduced pressure and the residue was refluxed severely in acetic acid/H<sub>2</sub>O(17mL/17mL) at 120°C for 2 hours. Finally, 7mL of HCl was added to be refluxed. After cooled down, the reactant was extracted with methylene chloride. The solution was distilled off under reduced pressure and the residue was purified through 25 the column chromatography (silica gel, ethyl acetate/n-hexane=1 : 3) to be dried. Yield ; 20%.

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(CDCl<sub>3</sub>) : 10.03(s, 2H), 7.92(d, 4H, Ar-H), 7.71(d, 4H, Ar-H), 7.30(s, 2H,

vinyl).

Examples 9 to 13. Preparation of branched  $\alpha$ -cyanostilbene derivatives of formula 1

Example 9. Preparation of 2,3-bis-[3,5-(4-methyl-phenyl)-biphenyl-4-yl]-acrylonitrile  
(Model 1)



**Model 1**

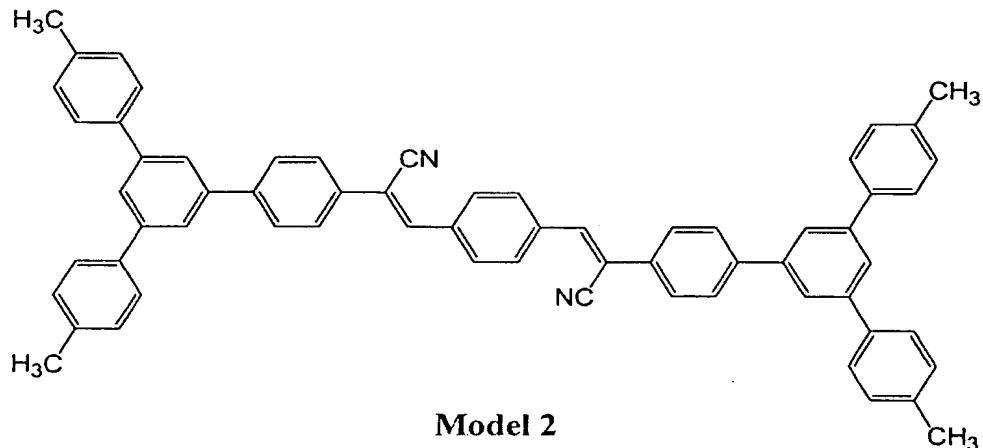
0.31g(0.8mmol) of the compound produced in Example 4 (Compound 5) and 0.2g(0.8mmol) of the compound produced in Example 5 (Compound 6) were dissolved in tert-butylalcohol and purified THF solvent at 50°C and 0.08mL of tetrabutylammoniumhydroxide (1M solution in methanol) was gradually introduced to the solution to be agitated at 50°C for 20 minutes. The precipitate was suction-filtered to be dried. Yield ; 93%.

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) : 8.06(d, 2H, Ar-H), 7.80(m, 12H, Ar-H), 7.66(s, 1H, vinyl proton), 7.62(d, 8H, Ar-H), 7.32(d, 8H, Ar-H), 2.43(s, 12H, -CH<sub>3</sub>).

IR(KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) : 3040, 2950, 2230, 1600, 1510, 800.

MS (EI) (Calculated for C<sub>55</sub>H<sub>43</sub>N, 717.94 ; Found, 718).

Example 10. Preparation of Model 2



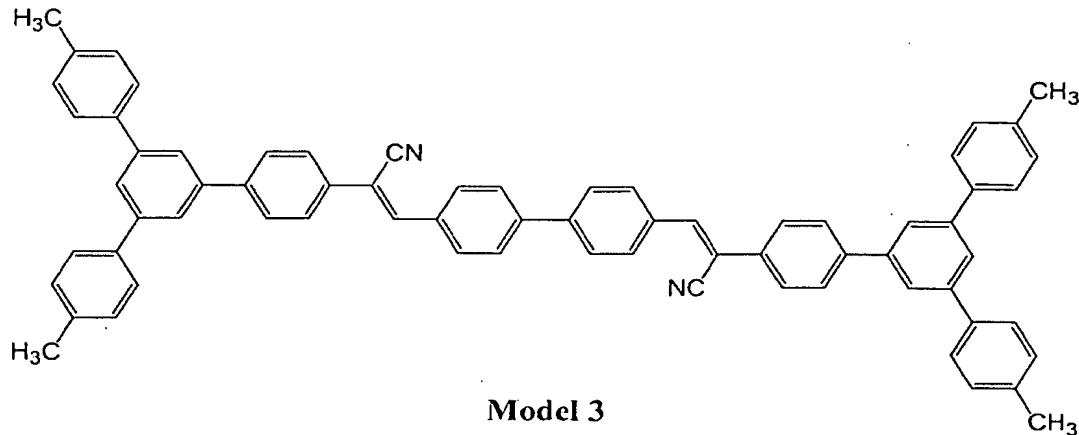
The same synthesizing method of Knoevenage 1 as the method for Model 1 was carried out. Yield ; 74%.

<sup>5</sup>  $^1\text{H-NMR}(\text{CDCl}_3, \text{ppm}) : 8.06(\text{s}, 4\text{H}, \text{Ar-H}), 7.80(\text{m}, 14\text{H}, \text{Ar-H}), 7.64(\text{m}, 10\text{H}, \text{Ar-H}), 7.30(\text{d}, 8\text{H}, \text{Ar-H}), 2.43(\text{s}, 12\text{H}, -\text{CH}_3).$

$\text{IR}(\text{KBr}, \text{cm}^{-1}) : 3040, 2950, 2222, 1600, 1500, 1280, 800, 750.$

$\text{MS} (\text{EI})$  (Calculated for  $\text{C}_{55}\text{H}_{43}\text{N}$ , 845.08 ; Found, 845).

Example 11. Preparation of Model 3



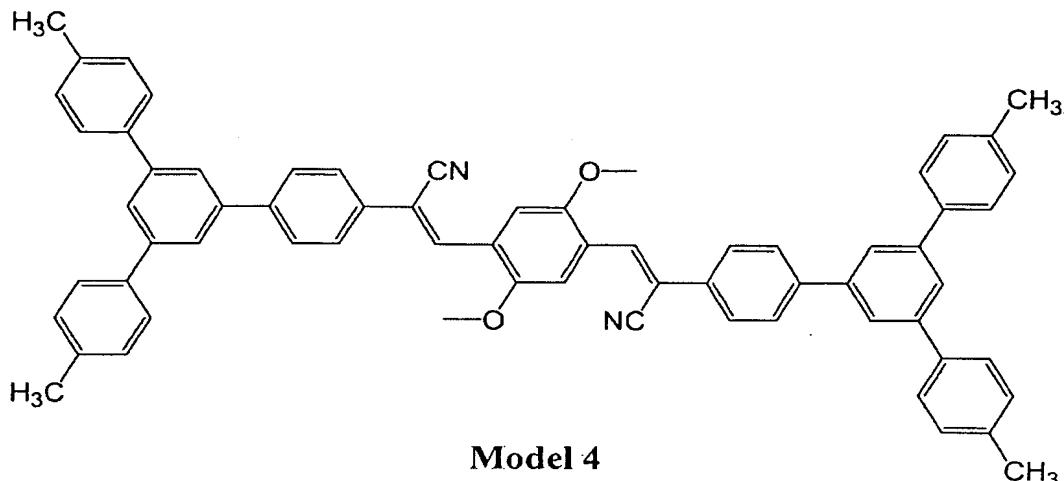
The same synthesizing method of Knoevenage 1 as the method for Model 1 was carried out. Yield ; 97%.

$^1\text{H-NMR}(\text{CDCl}_3, \text{ppm}) : 8.06(\text{d}, 4\text{H}, \text{Ar-H}), 7.85(\text{m}, 18\text{H}, \text{Ar-H}), 7.66(\text{m}, 10\text{H}, \text{Ar-H}), 7.62(\text{d}, 8\text{H}, \text{Ar-H}), 2.43(\text{s}, 12\text{H}, -\text{CH}_3).$

$\text{IR}(\text{KBr}, \text{cm}^{-1}) : 3040, 2950, 2222, 1600, 1500, 1280, 810, 750.$

MS (EI) (Calculated for C<sub>55</sub>H<sub>43</sub>N, 921.18 ; Found, 921).

Example 12. Preparation of Model 4



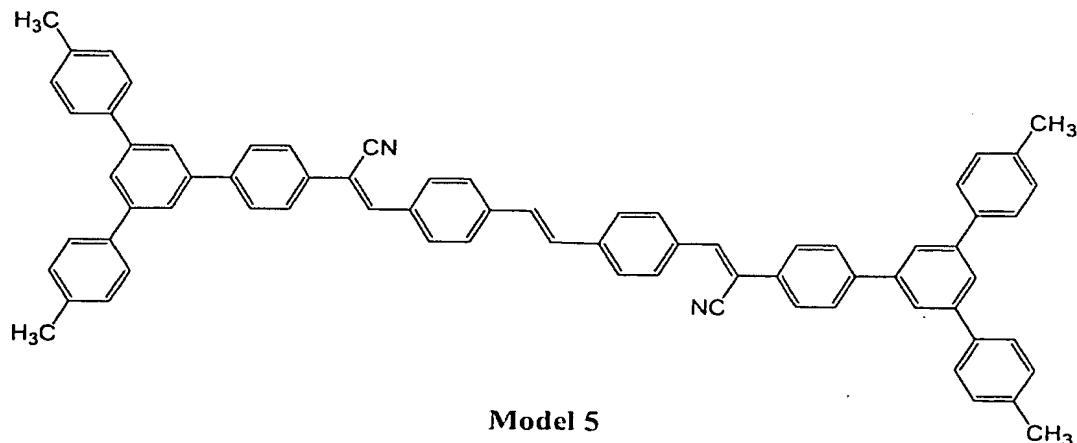
The same synthesizing method of Knoevenage 1 as the method for Model 1 was carried out. Yield ; 83%.

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) : 8.10(s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.96(s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.80(m, 14H, Ar-H), 7.62(m, 10H, Ar-H), 7.26(d, 8H, Ar-H), 4.00(s, 6H, -OCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.43(s, 12H, -CH<sub>3</sub>).

IR(KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) : 3040, 2950, 2220, 1600, 1510, 1230, 800, 750.

MS (EI) (Calculated for C<sub>55</sub>H<sub>43</sub>N, 905.13 ; Found, 905).

Example 13. Preparation of Model 5



The same synthesizing method of Knoevenage 1 as the method for Model 1 was

carried out. Yield ; 93%.

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) : 7.98(d, 4H, Ar-H), 7.78(m, 14H, Ar-H), 7.62(m, 15H, Ar-H), 7.32(d, 9H, Ar-H), 2.43(s, 12H, -CH<sub>3</sub>).

IR(KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) : 3040, 2950, 2222, 1600, 1500, 1380, 800, 750.

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MS (EI) (Calculated for C<sub>55</sub>H<sub>43</sub>N, 947.21 ; Found, 947).

#### Industrial Applicability

The branched  $\alpha$ -cyanostilbene fluorescent materials with a new structure of the formula 1 of the present invention can be called an organic electro-luminescent material  
10 greatly useful to the production of the organic EL element, which exhibit the luminescent feature in all the state of powder, liquid and film.

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Particularly, it is the initiative substance which can regulate the colors of red, green and blue by means of changing the core structure such as the substituent R<sub>1</sub> and can produce the high efficient display device capable of the whole color display. Furthermore, all the said materials exhibit the excellent heat stability and thus exert the excellent stability in the manufacturing process of the organic EL element.

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